

CLM PTO

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-12 (Canceled)

13. (New) A method for knitting a glove by using a flat-knitting device including at least a pair of front and back needle beds which extend in a horizontal direction while facing each other from front and back directions, at least one of the front and back needle beds being movable horizontally in a racking motion, the flat-knitting device capable of transferring stitches between the front and back needle beds, the method comprising the steps of:

knitting a four-finger body through which a little finger, a ring finger, a middle finger, and an index finger are to be inserted;

performing a first rotational operation and a second rotational operation before joining the four-finger body with a thumb sheath, wherein the first rotational operation is performed by transferring stitches of the four-finger body held by knitting needles to free needles and moving said at least one of the front and back needles beds in a racking motion so as to rotate the four-finger body towards knitting needles holding stitches of the thumb sheath, and wherein the second rotational operation is performed by transferring the stitches of the thumb sheath held by the knitting needles to free needles and moving said at least one of the front and back needles beds in a racking motion so as to rotate the thumb sheath within a range of 1/4 of a round or less; and

joining the four-finger body with the thumb sheath.

14. (New) A method for knitting a glove by using a flat-knitting device including at least a pair of front and back needle beds which extend in a horizontal direction while facing each other from front and back directions, at least one of the front and back needle beds being movable horizontally in a racking motion, the flat-knitting device capable of transferring stitches between the front and back needle beds, the method comprising the steps of:

knitting a four-finger body through which a little finger, a ring finger, a middle finger, and an index finger are to be inserted;

performing a rotational operation before joining the four-finger body with a thumb sheath, the rotational operation being performed by transferring stitches of the thumb sheath held by knitting needles to free needles and moving said at least one of the front and back needles beds in a racking motion so as to rotate the thumb sheath within a range of $1/4$ of a round or less;

overlapping some of the stitches of the thumb sheath with a predetermined number of stitches on a palm-side of the four-finger body from an end of the four-finger body proximate an index-finger sheath;

performing a cast-off process on the overlapping stitches; and

knitting a five-finger body.

15. (New) A method for knitting a glove by using a flat-knitting device including at least a pair of front and back needle beds which extend in a horizontal direction while facing each other from front and back directions, at least one of the front and back needle beds being movable horizontally in a racking motion, the flat-knitting device capable of transferring stitches between the front and back needle beds, the method comprising the steps of:

knitting a four-finger body through which a little finger, a ring finger, a middle finger, and an index finger are to be inserted;

knitting a thumb sheath;

joining the four-finger body with the thumb sheath; and

knitting a five-finger body such that a palm-side fabric-segment of the five-finger body has a less number of stitches than a backhand-side fabric-segment of the five-finger body, whereby the thumb sheath protrudes outward from the palm-side fabric-segment of the five-finger body and is disposed in a rotating manner with respect to the palm-side fabric-segment.

16. (New) The method for knitting the glove according to Claim 15, wherein the five-finger body is knitted while an overlapping process is performed on the palm-side fabric-segment of the five-finger body for a predetermined number of courses, the overlapping process being performed from a side of the palm-side fabric-segment proximate the thumb sheath and by overlapping stitches

of the five-finger body extending continuously from stitches of the four-finger body in the wale direction with stitches of the five-finger body extending continuously from stitches of the thumb sheath in the wale direction.

17. (New) The method for knitting the glove according to Claim 13, wherein, before joining the four-finger body with the thumb sheath, the four-finger body is knitted in a manner such that a knitting width of the four-finger body is increased by increasing stitches at a section of the four-finger body proximate the thumb sheath.

18. (New) The method for knitting the glove according to Claim 17, wherein, after the four-finger body is joined with the thumb sheath, the five-finger body is knitted in a manner such that a knitting width of the five-finger body is reduced.

19. (New) The method for knitting the glove according to Claim 18, wherein the five-finger body is knitted while the stitches of the five-finger body extending continuously from the stitches of the thumb sheath in the wale direction are overlapped with the stitches of the five-finger body extending continuously from the stitches of the four-finger body in the wale direction for a predetermined number of courses.

20. (New) A glove knitted by using a flat-knitting device including at least a pair of front and back needle beds which extend in a horizontal direction while facing each other from front and back directions, at least one of the front and back needle beds being movable horizontally in a racking motion, the flat-knitting device capable of transferring stitches between the front and back needle beds, the glove comprising:

a four-finger body through which a little finger, a ring finger, a middle finger, and an index finger are to be inserted; and
a thumb sheath,

wherein a joining position between the four-finger body and the thumb sheath is disposed on a palm-side of the four-finger body at a section between an end of the four-finger body proximate an index-finger sheath and a center of a palm, and

wherein the thumb sheath is joined with the four-finger body such that the thumb sheath is rotated within a range of $1/4$ of a round or less.

21. (New) A glove knitted by using a flat-knitting device including at least a pair of front and back needle beds which extend in a horizontal direction while facing each other from front and back directions, at least one of the front and back needle beds being movable horizontally in a racking motion, the flat-knitting device capable of transferring stitches between the front and back needle beds, the glove comprising:

a four-finger body through which a little finger, a ring finger, a middle finger, and an index finger are to be inserted; and

a thumb sheath,

wherein some of stitches of the thumb sheath are overlapped with a predetermined number of stitches on a palm-side of the four-finger body from an end of the four-finger body proximate an index-finger sheath in a state such that the thumb sheath is rotated within a range of $1/4$ of a round or less, the overlapping stitches being cast off.

22. (New) A glove knitted by using a flat-knitting device including at least a pair of front and back needle beds which extend in a horizontal direction while facing each other from front and back directions, at least one of the front and back needle beds being movable horizontally in a racking motion, the flat-knitting device capable of transferring stitches between the front and back needle beds, the glove comprising:

a four-finger body through which a little finger, a ring finger, a middle finger, and an index finger are to be inserted; and

a thumb sheath,

wherein, after the four-finger body is joined with the thumb sheath, a five-finger body is formed such that a palm-side fabric-segment of the five-finger body has a less number of stitches than a backhand-side fabric-segment of the five-finger body, whereby the thumb sheath protrudes outward from the palm-side fabric-segment of the five-finger body and is disposed in a rotating manner with respect to the palm-side fabric-segment.

23. (New) The method for knitting the glove according to Claim 14, wherein, before joining the four-finger body with the thumb sheath, the four-finger body is knitted in a manner such that a knitting width of the four-finger body is increased by increasing stitches at a section of the four-finger body proximate the thumb sheath.

24. (New) The method for knitting the glove according to Claim 15, wherein, before joining the four-finger body with the thumb sheath, the four-finger body is knitted in a manner such that a knitting width of the four-finger body is increased by increasing stitches at a section of the four-finger body proximate the thumb sheath.